

How well do we know our wetlands? The remarkable discoveries of *Photuris mysticalampas* and *Lejeunea maxonii* from the Nanticoke River floodplain

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Over the last several decades ecologists have largely moved from knee deep in muck to carpal tunnel syndrome. Few would argue that biological inventory has taken a back seat to geospatial modeling - but at what cost? Here we highlight two recent remarkable discoveries from the same Delaware wetland that we feel symbolize how much we have to learn about our wetland flora and fauna: (1) the discovery of a firefly new to science (*Photuris mysticalampas*), and (2) the significant range expansion of a leafy liverwort (*Lejeunea maxonii*). Delaware has lost >1300 ha of wetlands in the past 15 years. We believe the discovery of these species exemplifies the need for continued biological inventory of our wetlands particularly in the face of climate change and associated habitat loss. We believe that field inventory should complement or perhaps play a leading role in ongoing geospatial efforts rather than be an afterthought. All species play a part in ecosystem function and a lack of knowledge regarding species distributions can undermine the potential effectiveness of our conservation efforts.